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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1906.

### WANTED—A RIDDLE SOLVER.

The penitentiary officials are up against a problem which makes the "How old is Ann?" query look like a piker. One of the laws passed by the last legislature provides that when men are convicted and are held in jail after being sentenced because of the prevalence of infectious diseases shall have the time deducted from their terms in the penitentiary.

In going over the lists furnished by the penitentiary officials it was discovered that a man had been sentenced to the prison for life, and that he had been detained in jail for eighteen days. The question for the officers to decide is, How can they take off the eighteen days? Can they release the man for eighteen days before putting him in prison or will they be forced to figure it out and let him out eighteen days before his death?

To be sure, there are disadvantages connected with both of those propositions. If they should let him out before his term begins he might decide not to come back. The other is not at all feasible; for even if one could find a doctor who would positively predict a man's death in eighteen days the fellow might prove stubborn and live eighteen years. Just to show that the doctor didn't know what he was talking about. It is peculiar that none of the chronic hair-splitters in the General Assembly happened to notice that the law in question failed to make an exception in the case of life term prisoners.

### JAPANESE SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The Japanese seem to be adopting still another theory of the Occident, and as a result there is a remarkable increase in the demand for women school teachers in the Mikado's domain. Fifteen years ago the women preparing for the profession of teaching were only 20 per cent. of the total number. Today they constitute 85; the demand for women as instructors is much greater than that for men. The number of girls who receive a regular education is eight times what it was a decade ago. There is also an ever-increasing invasion of business offices; in some of the largest houses in Tokio and other cities, most of the clerks are now women. It would be a mistake, however, to interpret this movement as a sign that the women of Japan have suddenly become mannish. They have from time immemorial done the hardest kind of drudgery, such as weaving, coal heaving and tilling the soil, which is infinitely more the work of a man than teaching and bookkeeping. Their new employment may mean a relief from their more arduous old ones.

Since the progress of a nation seems to keep pace with the privileges and advantages bestowed upon its women, the opening up of new and important professions for the Japanese women, undoubtedly means that Japan is preparing to take a stand in the van of civilization.

The Ohio State railway commission has decided to investigate all accidents on the interurban electric lines of the State, with a view to decreasing the number of smash-ups. If the commission is going into the subject in order to secure information upon which to base action in the right direction its efforts may be productive of good results. One fact may as well be recognized at the beginning, however. That is, to prevent acci-

dents will continue to kill and maim until it becomes cheaper to prevent accidents than it is to settle up the claims growing out of them. In other words, while human life is cheap and safety devices are costly the railroads will continue to take the gambler's chance with dividends stacked against death.

President Roosevelt knows little of the issues involved in the tariff question if he is in earnest when he declares that the question of "revising the tariff stands wholly apart from the question of dealing with the so-called trusts." It is obvious to all save the rankest sort of political partisans that the trusts are founded upon the prohibitive protective tariff and through its operations maintain their hold upon the monopolies they have built. The two questions are inseparable and the proper solution of one will mean the satisfactory settlement of the other.

Mr. Patrick Crowe has located in the thriving town of New York, having taken the pains to go to the police authorities and assure them that he is now an honest man. The members of Gotham's finest seem inclined to take him at his word and assure him that he may remain there so long as he remains honest—which, in metropolitan parlance means, "so long as you don't get caught." If the standard were too strictly enforced there probably would be such an exodus from New York that Chicago would at once become the first city of the land.

The large number of bank directors, who do not direct, now coming to the front suggests the desirability of a specific law providing either for criminal prosecution or for financial responsibility to depositors on the part of such derelict officials.

Those people who don't know how to spell under the old style will at least have the consolation of knowing that they have wasted no time on what now threatens to become a lost art.

A New York man named Louis Link asks for a divorce from his wife because she is "growing too fat." Perhaps if he fails to get the decree he may take matters in his own hands and become the missing Link.

A New York boy who fell five stories asked the policeman who picked him up for a cigarette. The lesson of the incident is that it takes more than a five-story fall to break a vicious habit.

Of course, the pity is that Hippo waited until he had wrecked the great institution under his care before deciding to rid the world of his cowardly self.

### THE RAIN.

(Written for Daily Press.)

Patter, patter little rain,  
Go away and come again.  
You have washed your welcome out,  
And made trouble come about.

You have wasted field and plain—  
Driven farmers quite insane.  
An unwelcome guest you be  
On the land, as well as the sea.

Go—We beg you'll now depart,  
And we'll cheer when off you start.  
Go away and come again;  
But—not soon, we pray you, rain!  
—O. L. B.

### FIGHTING THE SEA.

Holland's Continuous Performance  
In Preventing Floods.

Holland is a country of wooden piles and dikes, for the people are perpetually fighting against the encroachments of water. One building in Amsterdam rests on no fewer than 13,659 piles, though the dikes around the town, which have been erected at enormous expense, effectually prevent any chance of a flood. The streets of the flourishing port of Rotterdam even are frequently under water in the winter, and in some parts of south Holland the people are compelled to do their shopping in boats.

When the Zuyder Zee breaks on to the land, those who wade up to their knees along the streets of a flooded village meet all manner of fish. This is explained by the fact that the Zuyder Zee, with its mud bottom, is literally crammed with funny tribes; and one authority states that if it were well scraped of all its fish one year, it would be full again the next.

The land of Holland is really of four distinct levels, and from ten to twelve feet between the highest and the lowest. To make the land dry, the water is pumped from the lowest level to the one immediately above it, and so on, until the water has been returned again to the sea. A large number of engineers are specially engaged to look after the dikes, and no less a sum than \$2,500,000 is expended every year in keeping these fortifications against the sea in proper repair.

### SOFT CRABS.

After Shedding the New Shells Hard-  
en With Great Rapidity.

The supply of soft crabs for market is obtained by catching hard crabs and keeping them until they shed their shells. For this purpose large rectangular floats, made of laths and

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planking, are employed, and three or four times every day the stock on hand is carefully inspected, all the soft crabs being picked out and packed without delay. They are put into shallow boxes of moist seaweed, from ten to thirty-five dozen in a box, according to the size of the animals. When the packing is done carefully the occupants may be kept alive from sixty to seventy hours after leaving the water.

Crabs have been shipped all the way from the Chesapeake to Canada, arriving at their destination in good condition. In summer, of course, ice is used.

But where soft crabs are concerned it is necessary that they shall reach the market quickly, because their new shells harden with great rapidity. At the end of twelve hours the shells are like parchment, and in three or four days the crab is as hard as ever—hence unfit for use in the form most highly approved by epicures.—New York Herald.

### Nautical Etiquette

They were on their honeymoon. He had bought a catboat and had taken her out to show her how well he could handle a boat, putting her to tend the sheet. A puff of wind came, and he shouted in no uncertain tones, "Let go the sheet." No response. Then again, "Let go that sheet, quick." Still no movement. A few minutes after, when both were clinging to the bottom of the overturned boat, he said:

"Why didn't you let go that sheet when I told you to, dear?"  
"I would have," said the bride, "if you had not been so rough about it. You ought to speak more kindly to your wife."—New York Post.

### Long and Short Days.

At Hamburg, Germany, the longest day occupies seventeen hours and the shortest seven. At Stockholm, in Sweden, the longest has eighteen and a half hours and the shortest five and a half. At St. Petersburg the longest has nineteen and the shortest five hours. In Finland the longest has twenty-one and a half hours. In the northernmost parts of Norway the longest day lasts from May 21 to July 2, the sun not sinking below the horizon during this period, but skimming along very close to it in the north. At Spitzbergen the longest day lasts three months and a half.

### The Word "Privilege."

"Privilege," seen so often of late in the phrase "special privilege," has been used commonly to signify a right, immunity or benefit enjoyed by a person beyond the common advantages of other individuals. Primarily, however, the word signifies an ordinance in favor of an individual, and this is in keeping with its derivation—"privus," one's own, private, and "lex," law. It is in this old sense that Chaucer uses the word.

### How to Arrive.

Man has to be humbugged if one would command him, and he has no use for the humble person. The way to get into a publisher's or editor's office (or indeed any other with a man at the head of it) is with a tremendous show of bounce and swagger.—A Splinter in M. A. P.

### Dog Days and Rabies.

There is not the remotest connection between dog days and rabies; indeed, the records show that the fewest cases of rabies occur in July and August. There are more cases in April, November and December than in any other months.—Springfield Union.

### A Fine Art.

Zabzin—How's this for a neat little work of art? It's worth over \$10, but I managed to get it for \$1. Zabzin—Where's the art in it? Zabzin—In getting it for \$1, of course.

What men prize most is a privilege, even if it be that of chief mourner at a funeral.—Lowell.

## THE BUSINESS SITUATION

What Bradstreets Has to Say Concerning Trade.

### RECORD FOR AUGUST SALES BROKEN

Except in a Few Leading Markets, Conditions Are Excellent. Fall Shipping Is Large and Railroads Are Working Overtime.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Aug. 31.—Bradstreets tomorrow will say:

Better weather and definite assurance of large crop yields stimulate the fall and winter buying, which is apparently at or close to its zenith. Most leading markets report buyers present in unprecedented numbers, and the volume of August sales exceeded records for that month except at a few places where weather conditions have been unpropitious. Sales of dry goods, clothing shoes, leather, hardware and other iron and steel products and lumber are very large. The fall shipping season is also apparently at its height. Shipping forces are working over time and the railroads are working to their full capacity.

A smaller movement of winter wheat has partly relieved the strain on the railroads and made for a little more steadiness in price of that cereal, which, however, has sagged slightly as the feeling grows that spring like winter wheat, will prove a large crop.

Reports from abroad are of better than earlier anticipation wheat crops, which seem likely to affect prices still further. The crop situation otherwise is very promising. The promise of cooler weather markets for increased activity in industry. The iron and steel markets are a little quieter, due mainly to scarcity of supplies rather than to weakening of demand, which is evidenced by advances in pig iron, old material and some finished lines, is still very heavy.

Business failures in the United States for the week ending August 30, number 138, against 155 last week.

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